



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
19 October 2007

Original: English

**General Assembly
Sixty-second session**

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**Letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative
of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

On behalf of the following Permanent Missions of States Members of the United Nations which are also members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization — China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan — I have the honour, as a representative of the country chairing the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to transmit herewith the Bishkek Declaration of the Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held on 16 August 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 19, 35, 51, 54 (a), (c) and (i), 56 (a), 71 (a), 93, 96, 98 (h), (q) and (u), 107, 108 and 117, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sirodjidin Aslov
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

Bishkek Declaration

The heads of the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (hereinafter referred to as the SCO or the Organization) — the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, held a meeting of the Council of Heads of SCO member States on 16 August 2007 in Bishkek. Guided by united or similar approaches to key current issues, they made the following Statement:

As the quickly evolving process of globalization intensifies the interdependence of States, their security and development become interconnected as a result. Only through the concerted efforts of the entire international community, based on agreed principles and by means of multilateral mechanisms, can modern challenges and threats be effectively counteracted. Unilateral action cannot resolve existing problems.

An effective global security system can only be built under the auspices of the United Nations and in strict accordance with its Charter.

Cooperation in counteracting new challenges and threats must be carried out in a consistent manner, free of double standards, and in strict observance of the norms of international law.

The international security agenda must not overlook such tasks as ensuring the continued stability of the world economy, reducing poverty, eliminating imbalances in social and economic development levels, maintaining economic, environmental, energy, and informational security, and protecting the populations and territories of the member States of the Organization against natural and technological disasters.

The SCO member States advocate the creation of a security structure based on generally accepted international legal norms that will:

- reflect the balance of interests of all subjects of international relations;
- guarantee the right of every State independently to choose its path of development based on its unique historical experience and national conditions, to protect its national integrity and the dignity of its people, and its right to participate in international affairs on an equal basis;
- ensure the settlement of international and regional conflicts and crises through political and diplomatic means in strict accordance with the principles and norms of international law and with due consideration of the legitimate interests of all parties concerned; and
- preserve the diversity of cultures and civilizations, and encourage the strengthening of dialogue among different civilizations and religions.

The SCO member States are determined to cooperate closely in tackling the issue of United Nations reform. The reform of the United Nations, and first and foremost of its Security Council, must proceed on the basis of the broadest consensus of its members. Successful cooperation in this area is the key to comprehensive strengthening of the United Nations, reaffirming the central role of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, and the full realization of the interests of all SCO member States.

The SCO member States consistently advocate the strengthening of strategic stability and oppose the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. They also consider the drafting of an international legal document on preventing the deployment of weapons in outer space, as well as on preventing the use of force or the threat of using force against space objects, to be an important and urgent step.

The heads of State note the significance of the ratification of the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty in Semipalatinsk on 8 September 2006, and welcome the adoption of the respective resolution at the sixty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly. That resolution favourably evaluates the contribution of the Central Asian States to the causes of consolidating the nuclear non-proliferation regime, advancing cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and strengthening international and regional peace and security.

The heads of State support the efforts of the participating States of the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty to conclude a Protocol on Security Guarantees with the nuclear-weapon States, in order to ensure that the region becomes a genuine nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region.

The heads of the SCO member States recognize the stimulative effect of the rapid development and massive use of information and communication technology on the social progress of humanity, and express concern over the potential threat of such technology being used for purposes inconsistent with the task of protecting international stability and security.

The SCO member States stand ready to promote cooperation on strengthening international information security in all aspects, and to step up joint efforts in this regard.

The heads of State believe that stability and security in Central Asia should rely first and foremost on the power of the region's States, and guaranteed through international organizations already established in the region.

The member States stress the need for collective efforts to counteract new challenges and threats. They favourably evaluate the activity of the SCO Regional Antiterrorist Structure and believe that it possesses great potential for further enhancing cooperation in the fight against terrorism, separatism and extremism.

Expressing concern over the threat of narcotics originating in Afghanistan and their danger to Central Asia, the heads of State call for consistent strengthening of anti-narcotics cooperation within the framework of the Organization, and for combining international efforts to create "anti-narcotics safety zones" around Afghanistan. The SCO member States stand ready to participate in efforts to normalize the political situation in Afghanistan, to develop economic cooperation with the country, and intensify the activity of the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group.

The heads of the SCO member States note the important role of the energy sector as a basis for steady economic growth and security, and attach special significance to strengthening interaction in this area. Reliable and mutually beneficial partnerships in various fields of the energy sector will help strengthen security and stability across the SCO region as well as in the wider world. Comparison of energy strategies in the SCO framework is a pressing task. Considering current resources, demand, capabilities and potential, the SCO member States will continue to promote dialogue on energy issues and practical cooperation among energy-producing, transit and consuming States.

The SCO member States reaffirm their commitment to provide mutual practical assistance in implementation of national economic development programmes.

The SCO member States reiterate that the Organization is open for interaction with all interested partners on the basis of international law and the generally accepted norms of international relations with the aim of finding mutually acceptable solutions for the key current issues.

(Signed) **N. Nazarbaev**
President
Republic of Kazakhstan

(Signed) **Hu Jintao**
President
People's Republic of China

(Signed) **K. Bakiev**
President
Kyrgyz Republic

(Signed) **V. Putin**
President
Russian Federation

(Signed) **E. Rakhmon**
President
Republic of Tajikistan

(Signed) **I. Karimov**
President
Republic of Uzbekistan



Security Council

Distr.: General
18 October 2007

Original: English

Letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Taking into consideration the Security Council debate held today, 17 October regarding the report of the Peacebuilding Commission, I have the honour to enclose herewith the Non-Aligned Movement's position on this important issue (see annex).

Furthermore, I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rodrigo **Malmierca Díaz**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Cuba
Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement



Annex to the letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Position of the Non-Aligned Movement on the First Annual Report of the Peacebuilding Commission

17 October 2007

The Non-Aligned Movement conveys a warm tribute and its appreciation to Ismael Gaspar Martins, the Permanent Representative of Angola, the first Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, for his exemplary leadership and under whose guidance the achievements of the Commission, during the period under review, were accomplished.

As one of the significant outcomes of the 2005 World Summit, the Peacebuilding Commission in its first year has made important strides towards securing the foundation for implementation of its mandate and core functions as the key intergovernmental advisory body of the United Nations specifically designed to assist countries in post-conflict transition.

The completion of its first year in operation and the presentation of its report^a to the Security Council is a defining moment in the existence of the Commission, and sets the stage for a dedicated institutional mechanism to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict and which are under its consideration, towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction leading to sustained economic recovery and development.

The Non-Aligned Movement is particularly pleased with the comprehensive character of the contents of the report, which in our estimation, represents a factual and faithful account of what transpired over the period.

We recognize and appreciate the fact that, as with any new body, significant time in the first months of the Commission was devoted to administrative, organizational and directional issues, as it sought to establish itself and fulfil its mandate with respect to the peacebuilding needs of Burundi and Sierra Leone, the first two countries under its consideration. Despite this, however, some strides were made in relation to the situation on the ground.

The Non-Aligned Movement is also cognizant that increased resources and improved coordination in themselves will not be sufficient to consolidate lasting peace. National ownership of the process must constitute a core principle of any strategy which is developed to lay the groundwork towards sustainable peace.

While acknowledging that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked, the Non-Aligned Movement feels that there is the clear need for the creation of appropriate balance with development, especially in the crucial peacebuilding phase when the provision of immediate post-conflict risk-reduction strategies is fundamental to the process. These strategies are geared towards poverty reduction and include education and training, rural agricultural development, private sector reform and other capacity-building initiatives, including the creation of an

^a See A/62/137-S/2007/458.

investor friendly climate, all of which lead towards job creation, and by extension, overall improvement in the lives and living conditions of the affected local populations.

The Non-Aligned Movement looks forward to the continuation of the dialogue within the Peacebuilding Commission as we continue to build on the successes of the past months, always mindful that the countries under consideration by the Commission require swift action to implement priority projects as part of the rehabilitation and reconstruction process.

Additionally, the Peacebuilding Commission must continue to identify the means by which funds approved for disbursement by the Peacebuilding Fund reach the recipient countries in the shortest possible time. It is not sufficient to identify the urgency of the need while paying scant regard to or become lax in the critical follow-up actions at the most crucial stage of the process.

The second year of the Commission will demand closer coordination between the Peacebuilding Commission, other United Nations bodies, the Peacebuilding Fund and donor countries and agencies, particularly those on the ground in post-conflict situations, if some of the pitfalls of the recent months are to be avoided.

In this connection, the Non-Aligned Movement sees the work of the working group on lessons learned as having a key role to play in providing possible answers and assisting the Commission to avert the possibilities of unexpected eventualities which could derail the peacebuilding process.

In the same vein, the Non-Aligned Movement supports the development of integrated peacebuilding strategies (IPBS) as an important achievement and useful tool which offers clear pathways for guiding the work of the Commission in Burundi and Sierra Leone. What seems to be missing, however, is the presence of a monitoring and evaluating mechanism to gauge performance and analyse results on the ground. This is a significant component which will, among other things, aid in eliminating duplication and point to areas where greater attention and focus are needed.

The Movement welcomes the commitment of the donor community in the activities of the Peacebuilding Commission, but would wish to caution that the activities of the Peacebuilding Commission should involve all stakeholders and must be executed in a broad comprehensive and participatory context, consistent with its mandate. Decisions regarding the provision of financial resources should therefore be guided by national priorities and based on the collective decision of members of the Peacebuilding Commission. Recommendations for assistance must highlight the priority areas established by the government of the country under review by the Commission. The matter of government guidance should also be front and centre in planning the way forward and will certainly serve to strengthen the process of national ownership.

The Non-Aligned Movement is of the view that with the architecture of the Commission now completed, the Commission's work should now take on another dimension as it responds to the expectations of the international community, particularly those countries emerging from conflict, by producing tangible results on the ground together with more robust activities in the coming months, including the addition of more countries for consideration as they try to consolidate peace and

engineer prosperity. We particularly look forward to assisting other countries shortly.

The Non-Aligned Movement is of the view that we must move quickly to dispel the apparent misconception that because of its different configurations, there is more than one Peacebuilding Commission. In this regard, the Commission should seek to carry out its activities within a more unified and cohesive approach, working in much closer cooperation with the Organizational Committee, which is the main steering body of the Commission.

The Non-Aligned Movement expresses its appreciation to the respective Chairs of country-specific meetings, Johan Løvald and Frank Majoor, of Norway and the Netherlands, respectively, and to Carolyn McAskie and her team from the Peacebuilding Support Office, for their tireless efforts and outstanding contributions during the first year of the Commission.

The Non-Aligned Movement also take this opportunity to welcome and extend best wishes to Japan, the new Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, and other incoming members of the new Bureau of the Commission.
